

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 092867

64

ORIGIN EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 SR-02 ORM-01

VO-03 SCA-01 SCS-03 AID-05 OPR-02 L-02 H-02 DPW-01

SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 INSE-00

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EA/VN:RHWENZEL (DRAFT)

S/S-O:JLHOGANSON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR POSTS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092867

INFORM CONSULS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMR, SREF, CVIS, VS

SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF VIETNAMESE CITIZENS FROM SAIGON

REF: PARIS 10111

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REPLY BEING GIVEN BY DEPARTMENT
TO ALL INQUIRIES CONCERNING "EVACUATION LISTS," ETC.
"AS THE PRESIDENT STATED IN HIS ADDRESS OF APRIL 10,
WE MUST CONSIDER THE SAFETY OF THE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF
SOUTH VIETNAMESE EMPLOYEES OF THE USG, OF NEWS AGENCIES,
OF CONTRACTORS AND BUSINESSES FOR MANY YEARS WHOSE
LIVES, WITH THEIR DEPENDENTS, ARE IN GRAVE PERIL. THE
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PAGE 02 STATE 092867

PRESIDENT ALSO NOTED THAT THERE ARE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF
OTHER SOUTH VIETNAMESE INTELLECTUALS, TEACHERS, EDITORS,
AND OPINION LEADERS, WHO HAVE SUPPORTED THEIR COUNTRY'S
CAUSE AND ITS CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED

STATES, TO WHOM WE HAVE A PROFOUND MORAL OBLIGATION.
THE CONGRESS IS CURRENTLY CONSIDERING LEGISLATION WHICH
WOULD PROVIDE FOR THE FINANCING OF THE EVACUATION OF SUCH
VIETNAMESE IF AN EVACUATION SHOULD BE NECESSARY.
EVACUATION WOULD DEPEND UPON DECISIONS TO BE MADE BOTH BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF VIET-NAM AND THE USG. SOME

AUTHORIZATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FOR RELAXED VISA
REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN VIETNAMESE. OTHER DECISIONS
WILL BE FORTHCOMING.

2. "AS FOR VIETNAMESE RELATIVES OF AMERICAN CITIZENS AND
RESIDENT ALIENS, THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO PROCEED IS TO
FILE PETITIONS WITH INS.

"THOSE VIETNAMESE WHO ARE EMPLOYED BY THE U.S.
MISSION IN SAIGON, TOGETHER WITH THEIR FAMILIES, ALREADY
HAVE THEIR NAMES ON FILE WITH OUR EMBASSY THERE.

"AS FOR OTHER CATEGORIES OF VIETNAMESE, YOU MAY BE
CERTAIN THAT WE WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO ASSIST
THEM UNDER THE CURRENT DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES.
HOWEVER, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT ACCEPTING MANY THOUSANDS OF
NAMES WHICH PEOPLE ARE SEEKING TO HAVE TRANSMITTED TO OUR
SAIGON EMBASSY WOULD CREATE A FLOOD OF CORRESPONDENCE
WHICH WOULD ONLY INTERFERE WITH THE EMBASSY EFFORTS TO
COPE WITH AN ALREADY DIFFICULT SITUATION. WE RECOGNIZE
YOUR CONCERN AND AGAIN ASSURE YOU THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE
WILL BE DONE TO ASSIST THESE UNFORTUANTE PEOPLE."

3. DEPARTMENT IS NOT, REPEAT NOT, ACCEPTING LISTS OF
NAMES FOR TRANSMISSION TO SAIGON. EMBASSY SAIGON
ADVISES IT IMPOSSIBLE TO COPE WITH VISA INQUIRIES OR
LISTS.

4. PERSONS BEING EVACUATED BY EMBASSY DO REQUIRE GVN
DOCUMENTATION. GVN HAS MADE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS IN
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PAGE 03 STATE 092867

STREAMLINING DOCUMENTATION PROCESS.

5. FYI. WE NOT ACCEPTING ANY NAMES BECAUSE TO DO SO
IMPLIES A COMMITMENT IN INDIVIDUAL CASES WHICH IT
IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE AND BECAUSE OF IMPOSSIBILITY OF
SAFEGUARDING SUCH LISTS. WE UNDERSTAND PRESSURES INVOLVED
BUT NO OTHER COURSE POSSIBLE. WE ARE RECEIVING
THOUSANDS OF SUCH INQUIRIES.

6. INS, THROUGH ITS DISTRICT OFFICES, WILL BE PROCESSING
PETITIONS AND PERMANENT RESIDENT ALIEN CONFIRMATION
DOCUMENTS ON BEHALF OF THOSE PERSONS ELIGIBLE UNDER PAROLE
AUTHORIZATIONS. THESE DOCUMENTS WILL BE USED FOR

PROCESSING THOSE REFUGEES WHO REACH SAFEHAVENS, BUT CANNOT
REPEAT CANNOT BE USED TO FACILITATE THEIR EVACUATION
BECAUSE OF THE SITUATION IN VIET-NAM. END FYI. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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